

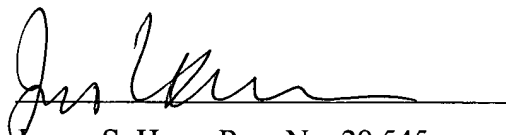
REMARKS

By this Amendment, the Applicants have added claims 205-259. Therefore, claims 55 - 62 and 78 - 259 are pending in this application. The Applicants want to advise the Examiner that claims 205-235 are identical to, and have been copied from, claims 1-31, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 6,855,464 to Niu et al., said '464 patent having been issued February 15, 2005. The Applicants further want to advise the Examiner that claims 236-259 are substantially identical to, and have been copied from, claims 1-10, 15-19, 21-28 and 31, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 6,855,464 but with modifications to the claims so that the language more closely tracks the terminology used in the present specification.

Claims 205-259 have been added to avoid any question of compliance with 35 USC § 135(b) should the Applicants decide, after completing their analysis, that the subject claims are patentable, that the present application is directed to the same invention as these claims, and that an interference is appropriate. If a determination is ultimately made that an interference is appropriate, a further paper containing the information required by 37 CFR § 41.202 will be submitted. Should the Examiner reach this case for action prior to receiving such a paper or filing, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner please contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

As indicated above, claims 205 - 259 have been added to the application to preserve the right to request an interference, if appropriate. While having copied claims 1 - 31 of the 6,855,464 patent to comply with the requirements of 35 USC § 135(b), the Applicants are not making any assertions herein regarding the patentability of these claims.

Respectfully submitted,



James S. Hsue, Reg. No. 29,545

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PARSONS HSUE & de RUNTZ LLP
595 Market Street, Suite 1900
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 318-1162 (direct)
(415) 318-1160 (main)
(415) 693-0194 (fax)